

Subject Mississippi Headwaters Board

Authors Persell

Analyst Janelle Taylor

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Overview

This bill would provide that all zoning authorities within the Mississippi headwaters area are subject to the land use and certification requirements governed by the Mississippi Headwaters Board.

The Mississippi Headwaters Board was established in 1980 as an alternative to the designation of the river under the federal Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. A joint powers agreement between eight counties (Clearwater, Hubbard, Beltrami, Cass, Itasca, Aitken, Crow Wing, and Morrison) established a comprehensive land use plan to protect and enhance the Mississippi River and related shoreland areas situated within the counties. The plan provided guidelines and minimum standards that were required to be adopted by the counties. State law also requires certain land use actions to be certified by the board.

Summary

Section	Description
1	Legislative intent. Modifies the legislative intent of provisions governing the Mississippi Headwaters Board to authorize all zoning authorities (rather than counties as stated in current law) to implement the plan for the area.
2	Generally. States that all zoning authorities in addition to the counties are subject to the Mississippi Headwaters Board provisions.
3	Zoning authority. Defines “zoning authority” for purposes of provisions governing the Mississippi Headwaters Board as “counties, organized townships, local and special governmental units, joint powers boards, councils, commissions, boards, districts, and all state agencies and departments within the corridor” excluding statutory or home rule charter cities.

Section	Description
4	Responsibilities of other governmental units. States that the certification procedure required under the next section applies to all zoning authorities in the corridor.
5	Purpose. Subjects all zoning authorities to the Mississippi Headwaters Board certification requirements applicable to certain land use actions.
6	Procedure for certification. Conforming changes.
7	Disapproval of actions. Conforming changes.



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